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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

PLANS HYDROELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT;
TO SURVEY CENTRAL CHINA LAKES

PEIPING CONFERENCE OUTLINES PLANS -- Wu-hsi Su-nan Jih-pao, 16 Aug 50

Peiping, 15 August (Hsin-hua) -- The Ministry of Fuel Industry conducted in Peiping, between 22 July - 9 August 1950, a national hydraulic engineering conference for the purpose of discussing hydroelectric power development throughout the country. It was decided to attempt to develop within the next 5 years hydroelectric power on a scale to meet the growing needs of industry and agriculture by pressing for the early completion of the economically most profitable projects now under way and by undertaking promising new projects.

It was decided that assistance should be extended to local governments, productive cooperatives, and private individuals, to enable them to undertake relatively small hydroelectric power developments, and that small-scale power plants should be established in rural regions as models to demonstrate the possibilities of water power development. It was considered that developments of this kind might well begin in the region of the eastern slopes of the T'ai Hsing Shan near the boundary between Hopei and Shansi. The early development of the power potentialities of the Ching Ho, a tributary of the Wei Ho, in Shensi Province, should also be undertaken.

Systematic and exhaustive search and surveys should be made of the nation's hydraulic resources, to be followed by definite planning of projects in preparation for future large-scale development. Decisions were also reached on plans for developing the trained and experienced hydraulic engineers that will be required in the years ahead, and on other related matters.

Water power resources in China rank second in the world, with a potential capacity of 149 million kilowatts. Of this, 65.2 percent is in the southwest part of the country. Up to the present, only 89 percent of the potential capacity has been utilized.

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Considerable progress has been made during the past 2 years under the People's government. Two hundred thousand cubic meters of concrete remained to be poured to complete the project of the Feng-man Hydroelectric Bureau at Lan-ho-pa in the Northeast. In 1949, 90,000 cubic meters of concrete were poured on this project, and in 1950, before the rainy season arrived, 57,000 cubic meters were put in position. Repairs of several other power projects in East China have been completed or are near completion. Greater progress in hydraulic power engineering may be expected in the future.

INCREASED STORAGE CAPACITY TO AID FLOOD CONTROL -- Nanking Hsin-hua Jih-pao, 17 Aug 50

Hankow, 16 August (Hsin-hua) -- The Lake Survey Party recently formed by the Yangtze River Conservancy Commission set out on its work on 5 August 1950. Initially, its main purpose is to survey the lakes in Hupeh along both sides of the Yangtze River from Tung-t'ing Hu downstream as far as Huang-kang Hsien, with special regard to ascertaining during the high water season the area, boundaries, depth, current paths, drainage channels, and flood water storage capacity of the lakes, and all obtainable hydrographic data concerning these bodies of water.

The objectives also include a survey of the number, distribution, and condition of the population ordinarily resident within the limits of the submerged areas, and the bearing of these conditions on the matter of redistribution of holdings under the land-reform program. The question as to what measures might be taken to use these lakes more effectively in preventing floods in the lower Yangtze valley will also be considered. The final task of this party is to set up an engineering office, and after the present floods subside, to survey the lakes at the time of low water, and to work out the engineering plans for the measures to be carried out before the 1951 flood-water season.

The six large lakes to be surveyed are the Huang-kai Hu (1) /numbers refer to appended characters/, Chang-tu Hu (2), Wu Hu (3), Pai-shui Fu (4), Tung Hu (5), and Hsi Hu (6).

CHARACTERS

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|----------|----------|
| 1. 黄 盖 湖 | 4. 白 水 湖 |
| 2. 張 渡 湖 | 5. 東 湖 |
| 3. 武 湖 | 6. 西 湖 |

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